

Scientific Presentation (2 presence days in Jülich and 1 virtual day)

Getting Research Published - Writing Effectively and Well for Doctoral Fellows in the Life Sciences, Natural Sciences, and Engineering

Excellent scientists need excellent data, but they also need to be able to effectively communicate the results and significance of their research to their peers in the community. Thus, academic writing remains a core skill for researchers. To promote this skill, it is necessary to train doctoral fellows in specific techniques of academic writing at the beginning of their research careers. Being aware of the criteria that papers must meet and using the writing process efficiently can make the task easier. This enables a production of a higher amount of successful academic publications.

In addition, schooling academic writing techniques relieves the supervisor, who not only has to expertly supervise the content of the academic writing project of their students, but also the linguistic and style editing of this academic writing project as well. This workshop is especially useful for second year doctoral fellows, who can learn how to develop linguistic and stylistic editing skills for revising their own work through this seminar.

Skills developed in this workshop focus on structural and language norms for research papers published in English. Strategies that promote these structural and language norms will be taught so that participants can learn how to produce writing more efficiently, define the strengths and weaknesses in their own writing, and revise their writing more effectively. Feedback sessions offered during the workshop enable participants to examine a personally written text, as well as texts submitted by other participants. These texts are usually not “perfect”, but their “imperfections” are ideal starting points for improvement. Professional input from the trainer (native speaker) will alternate with practical written exercises and discussions of relevant issues. There will be plenty of room for questions.

Contents of the three-day workshop will include:

- submitting a sample of your own writing ahead of the workshop
- managing your writing process professionally
- developing author responsibility and reader focus
- finding a focus by identifying an appropriate research question
- examining structural relationships within and between sections of a paper
- giving, receiving, and using feedback effectively
- understanding the drafting and revision processes
- creating precise, accurate, and correct sentences
- recognizing stylistically adequate and inadequate language
- applying the skills practiced by writing a text for a scientific journal on the third virtual day

On the virtual third day, participants complete a text assignment. This assignment invites them to apply the newly acquired knowledge from the previous two workshop days. Each participant receives detailed feedback for this particular text.